

Remarks:

Claims 1-14 and 16-47 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 16, 18 and 24 are presented in amended form, and claim 15 has been cancelled. Claims 26-47 are newly presented herein. Support for the new claims can be found in paragraph 23 of the specification, as well as in FIG. 1B.

Claims 1-14 and 17-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Horner, U.S. Patent No. 4,093,188. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-14, and 17-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Doom, U.S. Patent No. 4,072,296. Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being rendered obvious by Doom in view of Horner. Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are moot in light of the amendments presented herein, and discussed below.

Claims 15 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, and were deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response thereto, the limitations of claim 15 have now been incorporated into independent claim 1, as well as into independent claims 18 and 24, all of which now recite a connector having crossing grooves positioned along the lines of contact of the crossing elements with the connector. It is therefore requested that the rejections under §§102 and 103 be withdrawn.

Newly presented independent claim 26 is directed to a static mixer comprising a first grid having at least two spaced crossing elements and one or more slots positioned between and adjacent thereto, and a second grid having at least two spaced crossing elements and one or more slots positioned between and adjacent thereto, the crossing elements of the first grid are arranged at

intersecting angles to the crossing elements of the second grid, the grids are arranged such that each crossing element of one grid intersects and extends at least partially through a slot in the other grid, and wherein at least one elongated connector is positioned between and secured to the crossing elements of the first and second grids.

Independent claim 42 is directed to a method of making a static mixer, the method including the steps of providing at least two grids, positioning at least two crossing elements and one or more slots between and adjacent each crossing element in a first grid, positioning at least two crossing elements and one or more slots between and adjacent each crossing element in a second grid, arranging the crossing elements of the first grid at intersecting angles to the crossing elements of the second grid, arranging the grids such that each crossing element of one grid intersects and extends at least partially through a slot in the other grid, positioning at least one connector between the crossing elements of the first and second grids, and securing the connector to the crossing elements.

Independent claim 47 is directed to a static mixer assembly comprising a conduit having one or more static mixers positioned therein, wherein each static mixer has a first grid with at least two spaced crossing elements and one or more slots positioned between and adjacent to each crossing element, and a second grid with at least two spaced crossing elements and one or more slots positioned between and adjacent to each crossing element, wherein the crossing elements of the first grid are arranged at intersecting angles to the crossing elements of said second grid, and wherein the grids are arranged such that each crossing element of one grid intersects and extends at least partially through a slot of the other grid, and at least one elongated connector positioned between and secured to the crossing elements of the first and second grids.

Accordingly, independent claims 26, 42 and 47 define subject matter which is novel in view of the cited art, as do claims 27-41 and 43-46 which depend either directly or indirectly therefrom.

In light of the foregoing, it is believed that the Applicant is entitled to a Notice of Allowance, and such is respectfully requested. Any additional fee due in connection with this amendment should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,
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